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TRAINING DIVISION

DIRECTIVE

Vault #276-A

Ref. CopySubject No. 1-21-20/3Type Lecture Hours 1 Date Issued 17 July 1962School Assignment TRS/STPresent to BOC Continuous
(class)Title of Subject The American ThesisDocument No. 7No Change In Class. ☐☒ DeclassifiedClass. Changed To: 78Auth: HR 78-2Date: 29 SEP 1978By: 24

Purpose: This lecture is presented for the purpose of reorienting BOC students in American philosophy as it is different from and opposed to Soviet Communist Philosophy. The lecture is designed to stimulate further curiosity in our own philosophy so that it can be better presented to non-Agency persons who need to be shown its superiority over that of the Communists.

Scope and General Methods of Presentation: The presentation of this subject requires one hour and is given in lecture form. Its scope involves the historic development of the concept of truth showing the essential rationalism inherent in American philosophy and the general tendency towards a pragmatic outlook on all phenomena in man's experience. The irrational way in which the Communists hold their beliefs is shown to lead to an absolute irrationalism and a monolithic world outlook. The flexibility of American philosophy is shown in contrast and it is shown that we have consistently stated our beliefs in the dignity of the individual, in the concept that governments derive their powers from the consent of the governed, and in the historic doctrine of civil liberties. The responsibilities imposed by these beliefs are also discussed. Attention is given to our economic system showing that ours is a continuously planning economy, not a totally planned one which, as in the Soviet Union, leads to totalitarianism. Finally, attention is given to the problem of applying our philosophy - our thesis - in the international field. Since the opposition of the Soviet Union has made it difficult to achieve our goals in many areas and since we do not wish to resort to open warfare unless we are attacked,

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a willingness to engage in clandestine operations is assumed in order

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Subjects with Which Coordination Is Required:

References:

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